

Rites Held for Local Soldier Jerry Milam

Torrance

Press-Herald

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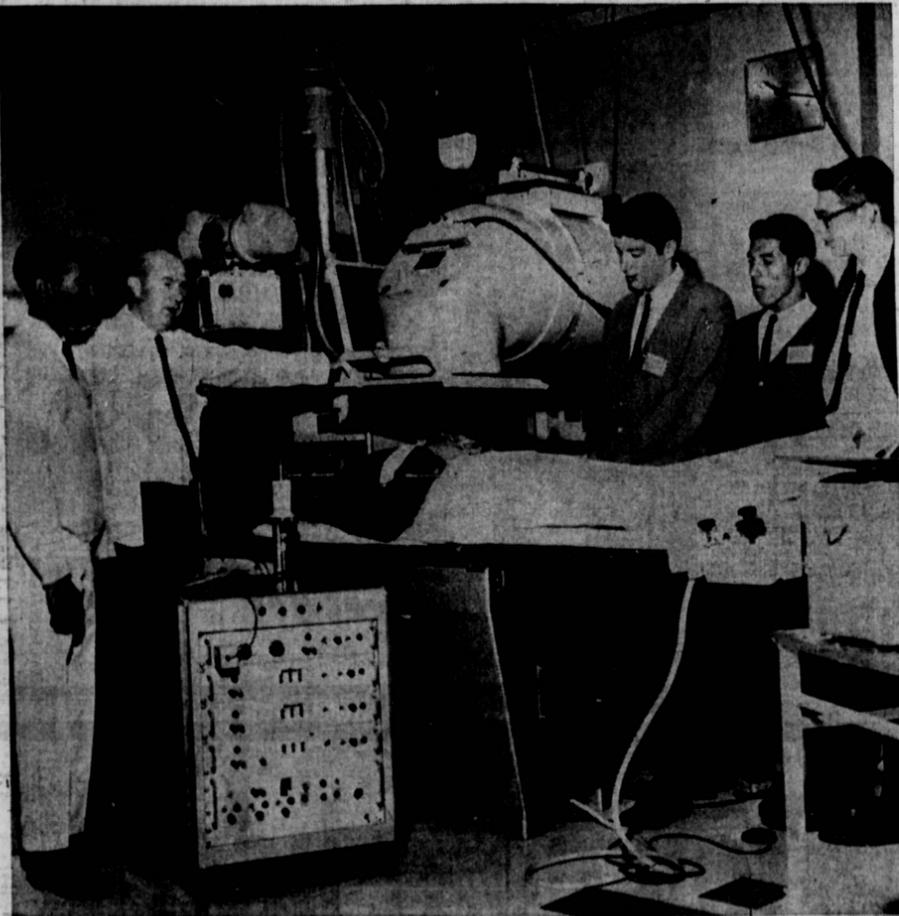
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AN INSIDE LOOK . . . Several Narbonne High students get a close up look at fellow student Robert Rutherford (on table) as they inspect Harbor General Hospital's X-ray viewing room during a "Boys' Day in Industry" visit Tuesday. Here Graham Hall,

AART, chief supervising technician of radiology at the hospital (second from left) describes the complex medical equipment to students Moe Nelson (far left) Richard Bradbury, Stan Gonzalez, and John Meenan. (Press-Herald Photo)

City Schools Get 17-Acre Navy Site

Surplus Land Given Value Of \$1 Million

Nearly 17 acres of surplus Navy land in Torrance has been given to the Torrance Unified School District, it was reported here yesterday. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, said he was informed of the action by Congressman Cecil R. King (D-17th District). King telephoned early yesterday to inform the district of the decision by the General Services Administration. Dr. Hull told the Press-Herald.

School officials first requested release of the 17-acre parcel nearly two years ago and it appeared the land would be turned over to the district earlier this year.

Such a center would provide vocational training for both high school students and adults, not only from Torrance, but from surrounding districts. Construction and operation of the center probably would be financed through some kind of inter-district agreement. Market value of the 17-acre parcel has been pegged as high as \$1 million.

THE FEDERAL government previously rejected an application from Torrance Memorial Hospital for a portion of the surplus land.

Both Torrance Elementary School and the Torrance High stadium are built on land previously given the local school district by the government.

FINAL disposition of the land was held up, however, when the Navy and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration indicated they might need the parcel. It was reported at the time that both the Navy and NASA hoped to use the Torrance property to work a "horse trade" for land in Northern California.

Dr. Hull said the papers formally giving the school district title to the property are expected shortly. Plans for the land call for the eventual development of a vocational education center on the property, as well as the expansion of the Torrance Elementary School site.

A FEDERAL grant of \$92,000 was awarded the Torrance schools just two weeks ago for planning in connection with the development of the vocational center. The Board of Education currently is studying various plans for the center, with an inter-district arrangement getting the most favorable consideration.

Hearings on a precise plan for a discount department store in North Torrance will be held at a special meeting of the City Council Thursday, May 26, at 8 p.m.

Councilmen set the special meeting last night after City Manager Edward J. Ferraro told them he could not meet the May 10 deadline set last week. Ferraro said one meeting had been held with residents and store officials, but that a second meeting—scheduled May 18—is necessary.

Since councilmen will attend a statewide meeting in Monterey May 22 through 25, no council meeting will be held May 24.

Reagan to Visit Here . . .

Ronald Reagan, candidate for Republican nomination for governor, will visit his Torrance headquarters at 1323 El Prado Ave. at 11 a.m. Monday, May 9. Area chairman John McDonald Wren said this morning. He will spend a few minutes meeting visitors at the headquarters and answering questions about his candidacy, it was indicated.

Airport Fete This Week . . .

Two days of aircraft rides, exhibits, and demonstrations will be sponsored by the Long Beach Chapter of The Ninety-Nines, a national group of women pilots who annually sponsor a transcontinental air race called the Powder Puff Derby. The events at Torrance Municipal Airport Saturday and Sunday will feature airplane rides at 2 cents a pound as a money raising event to help defray the costs of having the 1967 air race terminate at the Torrance airport. The event will be held from sunup to sundown, the sponsors report.

Torrance Man Hit by Car . . .

Confined to Hawthorne Community Hospital with a compound fracture of his left leg is Harry E. Massie of 1318 Engracia Ave., who was struck by a car Sunday evening as he tried to cross Hawthorne Boulevard near 116th Street in the city of Hawthorne. Massie, a long-time Torrance resident, had just alighted from a bus and was crossing the boulevard to reach his car, which had been parked in a street center parking lot, it was indicated.

Soldier Dies in France

Funeral services for a 21-year-old soldier who died in France April 25 were conducted Monday in Chicago, Ill.

Pfc. Jerry Milam, whose father, Clyde Milam, lives at 1453 W. 214th St., died near Verdun, France, where he had been stationed since February. The Army listed the cause of death as heart stoppage, apparently the result of a respiratory ailment.

Private Milam, a graduate of Narbonne High School, throughout his life. He entered the Army in February, 1963, and served a 13-month tour of duty in Korea. He was stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., prior to his assignment to France earlier this year.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and a two-month-old daughter, born in Chicago. Also surviving are his father, Clyde; a twin brother, Jack; four other brothers, Clyde Jr., Billy Frank, and Bobby Leroy Milam, all of Torrance, and two sisters, Mrs. Nancy Schmidt of Fresno, and Mrs. Niva Hanna of Torrance.



WILLIAM J. HANSON Board President

Trustees Name New President

William J. Hanson, now serving his sixth year on the Torrance Board of Education, was elected president of the board for the coming year Monday. Hanson is serving his second term as president of the board.

He succeeds Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts. During the past year, Hanson was vice president of the board.

Bert M. Lynn, also in his sixth year as a trustee, was elected vice president. Lynn will become president next year unless a 19-year-old tradition is broken.

HANSON, a chemical engineer employed by the Dow Chemical Co. in Torrance, is a native of Canada. He came to California in 1922 with his parents. He is a former teacher and has taught chemistry at Los Angeles City College and in high school.

A past president of the American Chemical Society and the Riviera Homeowners Association, Hanson served on the city's Library Commission for four years. He was first elected to the Board of Education in 1961.

He and his wife, Carolyn, are parents of three children. The family makes its home at 327 Paseo de Gracia.

LYNN, WHO has served one term as president of the Board of Education, was elected vice president by a 3-1 vote Monday. Mrs. Watts voted against Lynn, favoring the election of Dr. Donald E. Wilson as vice president.

Mrs. Watts said she felt Dr. Wilson should serve a term as vice president, then as president, before other members were elected for a second time.

Dr. Wilson was not at Monday's meeting. He currently is in Africa on a trip sponsored by the University of Southern California and the United States Department of State.

From Vandalism

Schools Put Loss At \$1,800

Damages amounting to more than \$1,800 were reported in 18 Torrance schools during the first three months this year, the Board of Education was told Monday.

In addition, theft of items valued at \$1,023 was reported. A total of \$235 was recovered from the parents of 16 students during the quarter, the report indicated.

Most of the damage was done in two incidents, the board was told. A fire in the boy's locker room at South High School resulted in nearly \$900 in damage. Two large glass doors at the administrative offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo, were broken and cost \$370 to repair.

Vandals broke 35 windows, discharged several fire extinguishers, overturned cabinets, desks, and ransacked several classrooms, according to the report. In addition, nine doors were damaged when someone apparently fired arrows at them.

Stolen items ranged from a drill chuck to two sets of encyclopedias to television tubes, and included a boom microphone, tape recorder, and a dozen archery arrows.

Commission To Review Mail Edict

A new Post Office Department edict which will require "curb line" mailboxes in newly developed areas of the city was referred to the Torrance Beautiful Commission last night for "appropriate action."

Councilmen last week expressed their displeasure with the new requirement which, according to Postmaster Carl Backlund, requires the local post office to serve newly developed areas through mailboxes located at the curb—not on the front porch.

Backlund said the new requirement does not include so-called "fill-in" stops—those on existing routes or extensions of existing streets. The Torrance Beautiful Commission was asked to study the new requirement and recommend action to the council.

In the meantime, Mayor Albert Isen suggested residents might write their representatives in Congress protesting the new edict.

In Stormy Board Meeting

Superintendent Charged With 'Playing Politics'

Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull was accused of "playing politics" Monday evening in a stormy session of the Board of Education.

Trustee Bert M. Lynn made the charge as the board began to discuss an item which Dr. Hull had asked to have withdrawn from the agenda. "Is this to come back when the full board is here?" Lynn asked.

"Yes," Dr. Hull said. With that, Lynn said he could see no reason to withhold the action, despite Dr. Hull's request to withdraw the item.

"I see no reason to reward an individual who jumped a contract," Lynn said. "If the superintendent is going to play politics, it's high time the public knows."

AT ISSUE is a recommendation that Dr. Richard K. Welte, former principal of Calle Mayor School and now

a consultant in the Bellflower School District, be rehired as an assistant principal at West High. Dr. Welte left Torrance just after school started last September to accept the Bellflower position.

Lynn said he has nothing against Dr. Welte, but that the issue is one of principle. He feels promotions should be made from within the district. "I've had teachers call me on this," he said.

"Morale (in the local district) is not particularly sound as a result of this," Lynn charged.

DR. HULL told board members they—not he—had released Dr. Welte from his contract and added that Dr. Welte was selected for the West High position from among 14 candidates. "He is more valuable to us because of this experience," Dr. Hull said.

Lynn, however, labeled the

statement "hogwash" and left the room for some five minutes.

Dr. Kurt T. Shery, also opposing the move to re-hire Dr. Welte, charged that Dr. Hull's comments were "the exact opposite" of what had been said when Dr. Welte asked to be released from his contract.

AT THAT TIME, Dr. Shery said, the superintendent had recommended that Dr. Welte be released because he would not perform well if he felt he had been denied a chance at a better position—a charge which Dr. Hull immediately denied.

"It's about time he learns he cannot jump around," Dr. Shery said.

Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts asked Dr. Hull to include the names of top three persons considered for the West High position when the item is resubmitted to the board.

"The important thing," she said, "is what it will do to the morale of our employees." No action was taken on the issue and it apparently will be submitted again when Dr. Donald E. Wilson, now in Africa on a study trip for the University of Southern California, returns in early June.

For Airport

Improved Flight Pattern Studied

Initial steps toward enforcing approved flight patterns at the Torrance Municipal Airport were taken last night as the City Council acted on a report by its airport committee.

Councilman H. Ted Olson, chairman of the committee, asked that an ordinance on noise abatement—to include punitive measures against pilots who violate the departure procedures and patterns—be drafted for consideration by the council.

In addition, the council ap-

proved an intensified information program to acquaint pilots with airport procedures and take-off patterns. Airport Manager Jack R. Egan was ordered to initiate the program, which will include the distribution of photographs showing the flight patterns and related information.

THE CITY'S Airport Commission was asked to formulate a statement of policy regarding the airport and to begin looking at long-range

(Continued on C-15)

Dow to Double Torrance Plant

A major expansion of production facilities for all grades of Styron polystyrene was announced here today by The Dow Chemical Co., the West's largest producer of polystyrene.

Leland A. Doan, general manager of Dow's Western Division, said the company's Torrance plant's capacity to produce the material is being doubled.

The expansion project is expected to be completed by mid-1967.

Expanding needs of the West's rapidly growing plastics industry were cited by Doan as the principal reason for doubling the plant's production facilities for polystyrene.

Polystyrene resins are key raw materials for the plastics industry. They are widely

used for the production of hundreds of plastic articles for home and industry, he said.

Doan said the new facilities will give the Torrance plant a wider versatility in the production of the company's line of polystyrene resins. These resins are marketed under Dow's trade name, Styron, to injection molders and extruders throughout the west.